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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,629	07/29/2003	David L. Narum	NIH290.001C1	9060

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EXAMINER

DUFFY, PATRICIA ANN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1645

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/05/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/630,629

Applicant(s)

NARUM ET AL.

Examiner

Patricia A. Duffy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2003, 2005, 2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The response filed 10-24-06 has been entered into the record. Claims 1-20 are pending.

Priority

Applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) is acknowledged.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code at page 32. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01.

Information Disclosure Statement

The three information disclosure statement have been considered. Initialed copies are enclosed.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Group I, claims 1-5 in the response filed 10-24-06 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the groups are so few in number there would be no search burden. This is not found persuasive because

The MPEP 803 states that restriction is proper between patentably distinct inventions where the inventions are (1) independent or distinct as claimed and (2) a serious search and examination burden is placed on the examiner if restriction is not required.

The term "distinct" is defined to mean that two or more subjects as disclosed are related, for example, as product and method of use, etc., but are capable of separate manufacture, use or sale as claimed, and are patentable over each other (see MPEP 802.01). In the instant situation, the inventions of Groups are drawn to distinct produces

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inventions which are related as separate products capable of separate manufacture, use or sale as described in the previous Office Action. Restrictions between the inventions is deemed to be proper for the reasons previously set forth. In regard to burden of search and examination, MPEP 803 states that a burden can be shown if the examiner shows either separate classification, different field of search or separate status in the art. In the instant case a burden has been established in showing that the inventions of the Groups are classified separately necessitating different searches of issued U.S. Patents. Clearly different searches and issues are involved in the examination of each Group. For these reasons the restriction requirement is deemed to be proper and is therefore made FINAL.

The examiner acknowledges the request for rejoinder between product and process claims, however a proper restriction is maintained until all product claims are allowable.

Claims 6-20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected inventions, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the response filed 10-23-06.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 3, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. This is a written description rejection.

The claims are drawn to paralog of EBA-175 polypeptide sequence and pharmaceutical compositions comprising such. The claims encompass proteins comprising a sequence with that is a paralog to "EBA-175" which is undefined in the specification and the claims. The specification does not place any structure, chemical or functional limitations on the "EBA-175". The recitation of "EBA-175" does not convey a common structure or function. The recitation of "paralog" does not convey common function because paralogs are defined as genes related to a similar gene by duplication within a genome and tend to evolve new related functions (see www.ddmag.com; definition attached hereto). It is unclear how the paralogs are "related". The scope of the claims includes numerous structural variants, and the genus is highly variant because a significant number of structural differences between genus members is permitted. Although the specification teaches that variants can be readily screened, the specification and the claim do not provide any guidance on the structure of the polypeptide and what changes can or can not be made. Structural features that could distinguish compounds in the genus from others in the protein class are missing from the disclosure and the claims. No common structural attributes identify the members of the genus. The general knowledge and level of skill in the art do not supplement the omitted description, because specific,

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not general guidance is needed. Since the disclosure fails to describe the common attributes or structural characteristics that identify members of the genus, and because the genus is highly variant, the function of the binding of antibody alone is insufficient to describe the genus of paralogs of EBA-175 or EBA-175 *per se* that function equivalently. One of skill in the art would reasonable conclude that the disclosure fails to provide a representative number of species of EBA-175 paralogs to describe the claimed genus because EBA-175, as the basis for comparison is not defined in the specification or the claims. Applicants were not in possession of the claimed genus because the specification does not convey to one of skill in the art a representative number of variants in structure and function of any such polypeptide that has the claimed structure and function. The genus of polypeptides with the claimed related structure (i.e. the instant paralogue) is substantial and highly variant because the polypeptides do not have a common structure and function. The recitation of "EBA-175" does not convey a common structure nor a common function. As such, generic polypeptide sequences that are unrelated via structure and function are highly variant and not conveyed by way of written description by the specification at the time of filing. As such the specification lacks written description for the highly variant genus, one skilled in the art would not recognize that applicants had possession of the genus of claimed polypeptides and pharmaceutical compositions.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As to claims 1-5, the recitation of "EBA-175" is an abbreviation of a some term that lacks antecedent basis in the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Sim et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,849,306, issued December 15, 1998).

Claims 1, 3, and 4 are drawn to isolated paralogs of EBA-175 and pharmaceutical compositions comprising these.

Sim et al teach isolated paralogues of EBA-175 called EBL-e1 (SEQ ID NO:6) and EBL-e2 (SEQ ID NO:10) at column 4, lines 9-14 and lines 30-53 and column 13, line 30-column 14, line 48. Sim et al teach sialic acid binding protein (SABP) domains for use in pharmaceutical compositions (see column 4, lines 40-53). Sim et al teach pharmaceutical comprising the polypeptides of the invention EBL, SABP alone or in combination with each other (see column 15, lines 44-51). Sim et al teaches the isolated polypeptides in a pharmaceutical carrier (paragraph bridging columns 15-16).

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-5 are rejected. Claims 6-20 are withdrawn from consideration.


Conclusion

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia A. Duffy whose telephone number is 571-272-0855. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 6:30 am - 6:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisory Examiner Jeffrey Siew can be reached on 571-272-0787.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


Patricia A. Duffy, Ph.D.

Primary Examiner

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